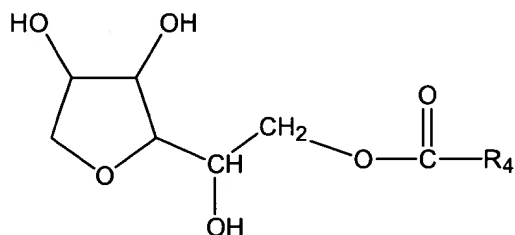


IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel all of the claims in the application and substitute the following new claims:

B<sup>2</sup> --11. A cosmetic or dermatological preparation comprising one or more aqueous phases, and comprising:

- (I) one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid,
- (II) one or more sorbitan monoesters, which have the structural formula:



where R<sub>4</sub> is a branched or unbraced alkyl radical having 8 to 22 carbon atoms,

- (III) one or more fatty alcohols, selected from the group consisting of branched and unbranched alkyl alcohols having 12 to 40 carbon atoms, and

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(IV) one or more electrolytes in dissolved form in at least one of the one or more aqueous phases.--

--12. Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--13. Preparation according to Claim 12, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--14. Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.1 - 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--15. Preparation according to Claim 14, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.5 - 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the

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preparation.--

--16. Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--17. Preparation according to Claim 16, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

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~~--18. Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 7:3 to 3:7.--~~

--19. Preparation according to Claim 18, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 2:1 to 1:2.--

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--20. Preparation according to Claim 18, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand are about 1:1.--

--21. Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the partially neutralized ester of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid is glyceryl stearate citrate.--

~~--22. A method of caring for skin comprising topically applying thereto an effective amount therefor of a cosmetic or dermatologic preparation according to any one of claims~~

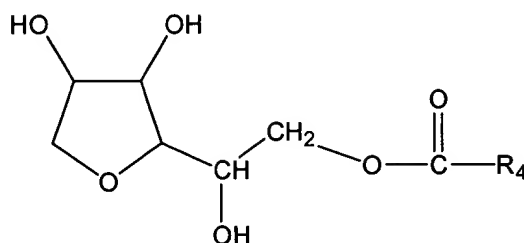
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--23. A method for achieving or increasing the stability of an emulsion to the presence of one or more electrolytes in dissolved form in at least one aqueous phase of said emulsion, said method comprising a).incorporating into said emulsion in addition to said one or more electrolytes:

- (I) one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid,

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cont
- (II) one or more sorbitan monoesters, which have the structural formula:



where R<sub>4</sub> is a branched or unbraced alkyl radical having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, and

- 3 (III) one or more fatty alcohols, selected from the group consisting of branched and unbranched alkyl alcohols having 12 to 40 carbon atoms,

and thereby b) achieving the stability of the emulsion or increasing the stability of the emulsion.--

? --24. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the stability of an oil-in-water (O/W) emulsion to said one or more electrolytes is achieved or increased.--

--25. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.05 mol/l.--

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--26. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.075 mol/l.--

--27. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.10 mol/l.--

--28. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.05 mol/l.--

--29. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.075 mol/l.--

--30. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.10 mol/l.--

--31. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with

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citric acid in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--32. The method according to Claim 31, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--33. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.1 - 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

--34. The method according to Claim 33, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.5 - 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

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--35. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

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--36. The method according to Claim 35, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.--

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--37. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 7:3 to 3:7.--

--38. The method according to Claim 37, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 2:1 to 1:2.--

--39. The method according to Claim 37, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand are about 1:1--



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contd

--40. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the partially neutralized ester of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid is glyceryl stearate citrate.--

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CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

A new set of claims is presented. For the Examiner's information, the new claims correspond to the previous claims as follows: